

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-05 IO-14
/102 W

-----127042 071234Z /45

R 071204Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8015

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 14851

PLEASE PASS TO AFL-CIO INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

E.O. -1652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, US
SUBJECT: EXTRACT OF INTERNATIONAL SECTION OF JAY C.
TURNER'S FRATERNAL ADDRESS TO TRADES UNION
CONGRESS

BEGIN TEXT. IN 1919, AT VERSAILLES, SAMUEL GOMPERS,
THEN PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR,
PRESSED SUCCESSFULLY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ILO.
IN 1934, ALTHOUGH NOT A MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS,
THE U.S. JOINED THE ILO.

OUR PARTICIPATION, UNTIL RECENT YEARS, HAS BEEN
WHOLEHEARTED AND MOST REWARDING. IN RECENT YEARS THERE
HAS BEEN A RETREAT FROM THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES
WHICH HAVE MADE THE ILO THE MOST EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT
FOR THE BETTERMENT OF WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

ON NOVEMBER 5, 1975 THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE
WROTE A LETTER OF NOTICE TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE
ILO THAT THE U.S. WOULD WITHDRAW IN TWO YEARS UNLESS
THERE WAS A RETURN TO THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES
WHICH HAD CHARACTERIZED THE ILO IN THE PAST. KISSINGER
STATED THAT THE HUMAN RIGHT OF FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION
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WAS BEING GIVEN DIFFERENT INTERPRETATIONS FOR STATES
WITH DIFFERENT POLITICAL SYSTEMS, RESULTING IN CITATIONS
TO SOME VIOLATORS BUT NOT TO OTHERS. HE OPPOSED THE RE-
CENT PRACTICE OF ADOPTING RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING
PARTICULAR MEMBER STATES IN UTTER DISREGARD OF ESTAB-
LISHED PROCEDURES AND MACHINERY. THIS DISREGARD OF
DUE PROCESS HAD GRAVELY DAMAGED THE ILO IN ITS CAPACITY

TO PURSUE ITS OBJECTIVES IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD.
ALSO, AS KISSINGER STATED, IN RECENT YEARS THE ILO HAD
BECOME INCREASINGLY AND EXCESSIVELY INVOLVED IN POLI-
TICAL ISSUES WHICH ARE QUITE OUTSIDE THE OBJECTIVES OF
THE ILO.

AT ILO CONFERENCES IN 1976 AND 1977 THE TUC AND TH
AFL-CIO WERE TOGETHER ON THE ISSUES AND MR. CYRIL
PLANT DID AN HEROIC JOB. TWENTY-FOUR OR TWENTY-FIVE
DELEGATIONS OF FREE INDUSTRIAL NATIONS OF THE GROUP WERE
TOGETHER BUT THE MILITARY DICTATORSHIPS OF THE LEFT AND
THE RIGHT, THE NEO-FASCISTS AND THE COMMUNISTS, WERE
AGAINST US.

VOTES WERE LOST IN 1977 AT GENEVA ON TWO ISSUES OF
PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE. FIRSTLY, DUE PROCESS: THE ISSUE
WAS PRESSED SQUARELY BY A U.S. INITIATIVE, WHICH PRO-
VIDED THAT RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING A COUNTRY NOT BE RE-
FERRED TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, BUT FIRST BE SUB-
MITTED TO FACT-FINDING MACHINERY. THE PROPOSAL WAS
KILLED BY REFERRAL TO THE COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURE. WE
LOST -- A MAJORITY ABSTAINED.

SECONDLY, THERE WAS A DOUBLE STANDARD IN REGARD TO
COMPLIANCE WITH CONVENTION. AFTER CONSIDERING A REPORT
FROM THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS, THE COMMITTEE ON APPLI-
CATION OF CONVENTIONS STATED THAT "A SINGLE STANDARD
OF COMPLIANCE WOULD BE APPLIED TO ALL NATIONS." IN ITS
REPORT THE COMMITTEE ON APPLICATION DECLARED THE SOVIET
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UNION IN VIOLATION OF THE CONVENTIONS ON FORCED LABOR

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-05 IO-14

/102 W

-----127019 071235Z /45

R 071204Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8016

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AND ON FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION. WITH 197 ABSTENTIONS
AND 135 VOTING WITH US, WE LOST BECAUSE OF THE LACK
OF A QUORUM.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE
UNIONS (ICFTU) WAS ESPECIALLY HELPFUL IN THE STRUGGLE
AT GENEVA.

IN MID-OCTOBER A U.S. CABINET-LEVEL CONSULTATION
WILL DETERMINE WHETHER WE STAY OR LEAVE THE ILO ON
NOVEMBER 5. IF THINGS REMAIN IN GENEVA AS THEY WERE IN
JUNE WE PROBABLY WILL LEAVE.

WHEN THE ILO RETURNS TO THE PRACTICES AND PRINCIPLES
WHICH HAVE MADE IT GREAT, THEN WE SHALL RETURN.

IN CLOSING I WILL MENTION ONE OTHER MATTER. IN
HELSINKI, COMMITMENTS WERE MADE ON THE FREE MOVEMENT OF
PEOPLE AND IDEAS. THE SPIRIT OF HELSINKI MUST BE
NURTURED AND MAINTAINED AT THE CONFERENCE SHORTLY TO BE
HELD IN BELGRADE. THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES HAVE NOT
YET CHANGED THEIR REPRESSIVE POLICIES ON HUMAN RIGHTS
ACTIVISTS, FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION AND HUMAN CONTACTS.
WE HOPE HUMAN RIGHTS WILL BE GIVEN AS MUCH ATTENTION
AS THE OTHER ISSUES WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED AT BELGRADE.
END TEXT. TURNER WILL MAIL FULL TEXT OF SPEECH LATER.
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BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, SPEECHES, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: EXTRACT OF INTERNATIONAL SECTION OF JAY C. TURNER'S FRATERNAL ADDRESS TO TRADES UNION CONGRESS
TAGS: ELAB, US, ILO, (TURNER, JAY C)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1239034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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